

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the substitute specification as follows:

On page 1, before line 4, please insert the following:

Field of the Invention

On page 1, before line 7, please insert the following:

Background of the Invention

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 25 through line 29 with the following rewritten paragraph.

~~US-A-3558161~~ U.S. Pat. No. 3,558,161 describes a pipe connection device which comprises a plurality of jaws opportunely controlled by elastic rods connected with a hydraulic or mechanical type control system. The closing control leads said jaws to “get hold of” the flange of the pipe thus guaranteeing its watertightness.

On page 2, before line 18, please insert the following:

Summary of the Invention